



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.1635 | FAX (517) 373.3300

[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/vanwoerkom/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/vanwoerkom/)

For Immediate Release  
September 6, 2005

Contact: Jeff Cobb  
517-373-1635

## **Senate increases funding for Michigan National Guard disaster relief**

**LANSING** – The Michigan Senate has taken prompt action to support the Michigan National Guard’s efforts to assist those affected by Hurricane Katrina by voting to authorize money for the operations, announced Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores today.

“Now with the Michigan National Guard involved in assisting hurricane victims, I suggest people consider donating to the American Red Cross and to International Aid,” Van Woerkom said. “The incredible suffering in Louisiana and Mississippi brought on by Hurricane Katrina requires that we all support relief efforts.”

As approved by the Senate, the legislation authorized \$3 million to deploy members of the Michigan National Guard to parts of Louisiana and Mississippi, which were devastated by the powerful hurricane that struck recently. Parts of New Orleans were submerged because of breached levees.

The Guard has used existing funding to travel to the affected areas. The money appropriated by the Legislature will replace that money.

###